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THE ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

ON EARTH PEACE. . . NATION SHALL NOT LIFT UP SWORD AGAINST NATION, NEITHER SHALL THEY LEARN WAR ANY MORE.

NEW SERIES.

BOSTON, FEBRUARY, 1869.

No. 2.

PEACE OPERATIONS AT THE WEST.

In every enterprise, whether of benevolence or reform, the West is destined to become in time the chief field of labor and of hope. So we have long regarded it in the cause of Peace, but have hitherto been unable to attempt much on this vast field, teeming with so many possibilities of good and of evil. Before the Mexican war we did very little; and though during its progress, and soon after its close, we employed several agents there, we did only a mere fraction of what was needed. During the late rebellion we could do still less; but taught by its bitter experience, the public mind there, as in other parts of our country, must in time, if not already, be opened to a more earnest and favorable consideration of a subject so vital as this to the welfare of our country and the world.

In this exigency God has raised up a man that we deem peculiarly fitted for this work at the West, Rev. AMASA LORD. Long an earnest friend of our cause, thoroughly imbued with its spirit, familiar with its aims, principles and measures, and ready for toil and sacrifices in its service, accustomed from early manhood to such labors, and well known at the West by his long and successful advocacy of a kindred enterprise, we congratulate our friends, both East and West, on finding such a man to take charge of our WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

There is no need of our commending Mr. Lord to the confidence of those at the West who have known him so long and so well; but we cannot refrain from earnestly bespeaking for him the sympathy, prayers and active support of good men, friends of God and man, in the blessed but difficult and arduous work he is undertaking. Without your co-operation, cordial and active, he can expect little success; but with it, and the promised blessing of God, he may hope in time for much success.

This cause, though in fact as old as Christianity itself, may seem to many quite new. To millions even of professed followers of the Prince of Peace, we fear it is so; but to all honest, candid minds it will, on fair and full inquiry, commend itself, we doubt not, as worthy of their cordial, zealous support. We ask for it nothing more, nothing less than it really deserves, and protest chiefly against its being thrown aside without due inquiry into its merits. There has hitherto been a strange degree of ignorance or misconception on the subject; and we now ask the Christian, the Philanthropist and the Patriot to give it at length a candid,

earnest, thorough examination of its claims. We will help you in this by our agents, our Periodical and our other publications, and request in return that, if you find the cause worthy of support, you will join us in our efforts to push it onward to that glorious consummation which assuredly awaits it on the coming better days of the church and the world.

THE PEACE CAUSE AT THE WEST.

Having resigned my Agency for the American Bible Society, with which I have been connected for nearly thirty years, to accept the office of Western Secretary of the American Peace Society for the States west of New York and Pennsylvania, I embrace this method of laying before the readers of the *Advocate* some of our plans for promoting the cause of Peace on this magnificent field, and for soliciting their co-operation.

I am well aware of the difficulties of the work, and of my inability to accomplish anything in it alone. But I am equally well satisfied that God is on our side, and that, with the co-operation of his children, a change of public sentiment with regard to war can be produced, akin to that which has taken place with regard to duelling, intemperance and slavery, and by the same method, viz., the application of truth, especially of *Gospel* truth, to the evil in question. If strong faith in the justness and importance of the Peace cause, a willingness to make sacrifices for its promotion, a comprehensive system of operating, and patient, persevering efforts for this cause, will avail anything, then I may hope not to labor without success.

Our head-quarters and principal depository for the West will be in Chicago, and, for the present, at No. 7 Custom House Place, where letters designed for me may be directed, and where the publications of the Peace Society may be obtained.

We propose to introduce a system of Colportage similar to that pursued by the American Tract Society, with this variation, however, that all our Colporteurs will at the same time be soliciting Agents. In this work we can employ those who have not been accustomed to address public congregations, ladies as well as gentlemen, and the number will be limited only by the number of well qualified persons who can be found and sustained.

We want, also, a large number of Agents qualified to preach or lecture on the cause of Peace, and willing to

promote it likewise by circulating the volumes of the Society, and obtaining subscribers to its periodical. Every person who reads this article, and possesses the requisite qualifications, for either an Agent or Colporteur, is requested to consider himself personally invited to become one, and to write me in relation to terms, etc., at the place before named, and every one who cannot enter the service of the Society himself, is requested to call the attention of others who may, to the matter.

But we cannot depend entirely upon those who make the promotion of the cause a specialty. We must have the active co-operation of Christians generally, and especially of Christian Ministers, "Ambassadors of the Prince of Peace." We hope that many of them will preach on this cause as on the other parts of the Gospel, and shall be glad to furnish them with documents to aid them in doing so.

Those who cannot give their services to the cause of Peace, can enjoy the privilege, and discharge the duty of giving their money. To establish depositories of Peace publications, to scatter all over the West the tracts and volumes of the Society, to sustain agents and colporteurs, and promote the cause of Peace in other ways, will require a large expenditure; and men should give as liberally to *prevent*, in this way, a rebellion, as they would to suppress one, if it had broken out, or minister to the comfort of its victims.

As we cannot at present reach, by personal application, one in a hundred of those who may like to give, we invite *all* who read this appeal to send their gifts by mail to the officers of the Society in Boston and Chicago. We appeal especially to those who are in the habit of contributing liberally to other benevolent objects. War is the greatest obstacle in the way of these objects, and Peace is their best friend; so that by promoting this cause, we shall promote every other good one. We ask our friends to remember, also, that while Bible, Tract and Missionary Societies are sustained by millions of contributors, the Peace cause, being less generally known and favored, must be supported by comparatively few. Hence the contributions of those who *do* give, should be *large*. And yours, generous reader, is needed *now*, when we are just commencing these extensive operations at the West. We have devised them without a dollar to begin with, believing that the friends of humanity and of God would furnish the means for their prosecution.

Of the terms of membership in the Society, \$2.00 constitutes an Annual Member; \$20.00 a Life Member, and \$50.00 a Life Director. Annual Members are entitled to receive the *Advocate of Peace* free for one year, or as long as they continue their membership, and life members and directors to the same during life. Those whose contributions are less than \$2.00, and those who do not give anything, are invited to subscribe for the *Advocate*, and send the price (\$1.50 per annum,) to the undersigned, or to Rev. GEORGE C. BECKWITH, the Secretary of the Society, at No. 40 Winter Street, Boston. We want to have this journal read in every family, and shall be much obliged to per-

sons who receive this number, if they will not only subscribe for it themselves, but persuade others to do so, and send the names and money as already suggested.

AMASA LORD.

CHICAGO, February, 1869.

WHAT THE NEED OF WAR?

There is no need of war, except what comes from wrong modes of reasoning on the subject; yet it seems very generally taken for granted, without reason, that nations cannot, even if they were ever so much disposed, avert war in every case. So forsooth they must keep themselves continually armed to the teeth in self-defence! It will, we fear, be long before they will in fact avoid all war; but there are ways in which they might, if they would, do so with moral certainty, in nearly, if not quite every case. A right public opinion would soon find a way for the settlement of national disputes without a resort to the sword; and we propose specific means, or substitutes far more likely than the sword to secure all the legitimate ends of war. Controversies, whether between individuals or communities, can be settled only in one of two ways—by amicable agreement between the parties, or by reference to a third party as umpire. Hence our substitutes for war would be the following:—

I. *NEGOTIATION*, by which the parties adjust their own difficulties. This method is by far the best of all; and, if nations or their rulers would always keep their passions under the control of reason; if they would discard the illusions of national honor, abstain from all committals in the way of menace or defiance, and wait patiently till mutual forbearance and concession should be really exhausted in vain, they could hardly fail in any case to secure a peaceful adjustment.

II. *SOME FORM OF REFERENCE*. Of these we specify and emphasize three—*Mediation, Arbitration, a Congress of Nations*.

If the parties cannot, or will not agree between themselves, they must, either before or after fighting, refer the points in controversy to umpires in one of the following ways: *Mediation*, when a third party, friendly to both, interposes with the offer of its services as mediator. Such services they are bound in courtesy to accept; and this simple expedient, frequently employed of late, has in nearly every case sufficed to prevent a threatened appeal to arms.

2. *Arbitration*, where the parties unite in submitting the matter in dispute to the decision of umpires. This has been for ages an occasional expedient; but we wish to make it a permanent substitute for war. We urge nations to stipulate expressly for this in their treaties, hence termed *Stipulated Arbitration*; and just as soon as it shall become, as it may in time, the usage of all nations, the whole war-system will gradually pass, like the judicial combats of a former age, into entire and perpetual disuse.

3. *A Congress of Nations*, however, would be the best of all substitutes for war as a permanent system. We cannot